

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A computer-controlled automated management system (20) for monitoring and controlling distribution and storage of money tills, and linking tracking of employee 5 productivity to time in receipt of a till. The system (20) comprises a cabinet (22), a control panel (28), and a personal computer (30). The cabinet (22) is mounted through a wall to provide an interface having a front side accessible from a first area and a rear side accessible from a second area, such as, for example, a cash room. The control panel (28) is mounted next to the cabinet on the front side of the wall. The interior 10 cabinet space is divided into a plurality of till compartments (24), with each compartment (24) being selectively accessible from both the front and rear of the cabinet (22). Tills are loaded and removed from the rear by cash room personnel and from the front by cashiers and other employees. In order to remove a till from the front of the cabinet (22), the employee must identify him or herself using a keypad (62) or other device 15 provided at the control panel (28), which, in turn, communicates the information to the computer (30). The computer (30) receives the identification information and matches it to employee and authorization information stored in a database. The computer (30) is then able to match the particular employee with a particular till in a particular compartment (24). The computer (30) records the time and other relevant data and 20 opens the appropriate cabinet door (40) to allow the employee to take the till. When the employee returns the till, a similar process occurs. The system (20) is further operable to anticipate, based upon work schedules, needed till types or amounts; compile and maintain useful associated records, including employee productivity (i.e., time in possession of a till); and link to and integrate with other systems to further improve 25 efficiency.

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